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SUNDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 10, 1916

Sunday Morning, Sept. 10, 1916.
Battle of Lake Erie, 1813.

We have met the enemy, and they
are ours.

Oliver H. Perry.

Meaningless Figures

We have read with interest, mingled with amusement, a long statement by a leader of one of the democratic factions, designed to controvert the charge by the other faction that the state government has been wasteful and extravagant, and that taxation has become needlessly burdensome. There has been a lot of printer's ink and good news print wasted in this exculpatory showing, notwithstanding it appears on its face to be sound and plausible. Equally apparently sound and plausible and useless, are adverse exhibits intended to show that the tax burden per capita of Arizona, as well as the cost per capita of the state government, is greater than that of any other state. As a matter of fact, all these figures as they are marshaled and juggled by partisans really mean nothing, though to the casual, uninformed reader, they may appear convincing.

The statement to which we have referred proves that the state tax rate has been steadily lowered during the past five years. There is no dispute about that. But the tax rate may not be an important factor in the matter of taxation. Whether it is or not depends entirely upon what happens to that other factor—valuation. Taxpayers do not care what the rate is, standing alone; nor do they care what system of valuation is employed, standing alone. But they do care immensely when the two factors are brought together in their tax bills.

The statement we are considering pretends to make a comparison between the rates of taxation previous to 1913 and the various rates that have existed since. The statement contains no mention of the fact that previous to 1913, property in Arizona was assessed at not more than one-half its cash value and sometimes one-third or less. Since 1913 an attempt has been made, as the law requires, to assess property at its full cash value.

As this statement was prepared expressly for consumption by the farmers, and especially for the farmers of this county, it is shown by it that while the mining companies before 1913 paid only 17 per cent of the state taxes, they have paid much more since and will this year pay 45 per cent. It is also shown by the statement that this county will receive back from the state school fund this year \$124,000, considerably more than its contribution to the fund. But the statement appears to fail to take into its calculation that Maricopa county has had to contribute any part of the fund.

All these figures are dust in the air, effective only so far as the careless taxpayer or the non-taxpayer is concerned. They will not fool the man who has paid taxes. The thoughtful taxpayer or the taxpayer with a memory of one who has preserved his tax receipts through a long period of years will disregard the figures and the statement and the steadily reducing tax rate altogether. He will also find that regardless of the fact that the mining companies are paying 45 per cent of the state taxes now, instead of only 17 per cent previous to 1913; regardless of the fact that the state tax rate is now less than half as much as it was previous to 1913; regardless of the fact that Maricopa county is receiving a gift of \$124,000 from the state school fund, he has been more heavily taxed from year to year to meet the demands of government. He is, after all, in the same boat with the mining companies, notwithstanding demagogues tell him that he belongs to another and opposing class. As the taxes of the mining companies go up, his taxes go up and he is less able than the big mining companies to sustain the higher flight.

It isn't the rate that counts, it isn't the system of valuation that counts. Figures showing per capita cost may mean nothing. The amount of taxes in dollars and cents is what interests the farmer as well as every other taxpayer.

A Deal in Sole Leather

We must credit the state board of control with far-sightedness, with commercial acumen of a high order. Some mention has been made of the circumstance that nearly two years ago it was discovered that the Arizona Industrial School had on hand 2500 pounds of sole leather (though why it had it, was never explained, until now), which had been purchased by the board of control at 54 cents a pound. It was complained that the school was overstocked with sole leather; that there were no facilities there for making use of it. It was further complained that the price was too high, for at the time of the discovery, sole leather was worth only 37 cents a pound and it was claimed that it had not recently been higher.

We learn with pleasure from our contemporary, the Messenger, of this city, that the price of sole leather is now 64 cents a pound, "so that the said leather is now worth \$208.52 (actually, though, only \$280) more than when purchased. Extravagance, eh?" Thus, after all, that sole leather deal appears not to have been such a bad one. We remove our chapeau to the board of control. No one else in all the United States, or for that matter, anywhere in the wide world foresaw the startling events that were going to affect so favorably the price of sole leather. What secret information had the Arizona board of control that the Archduke Franz Ferdinand and his consort, the Duchess of Hohenberg, were going to Sarajevo to be murdered in accordance with plans said to have been formed at Belgrade at or about the time this sole leather was bought? This information would have been highly prized by all the European chancelleries,

which would also have doubtless stocked up with sole leather and would have made other preparations for the long and bloody conflict that was to ensue. The great war and its preliminaries caught all the world except the board of control napping.

Still, the board of control took a long shot if it knew only that the assassination was to take place. There were a thousand things that might have intervened to hold the price of sole leather in check. Serbia might have acceded to all the unreasonable demands of Austria, as she did accede to some of them. It could have been by no means certain that at the time of the sole leather deal that Russia would mobilize. And if so, while of course France would have been drawn into the vortex, there was a chance that Great Britain would escape the whirlpool. A war within continental Europe would not have greatly disturbed the sole leather market. But we suppose the board had other inside information.

Nothing succeeds like success, we have been told. When we have attained a glorious end it does not matter much by what way we have come. Our hats are off to the board of control. Some captious persons have complained that the board paid too much for the sole leather, 54 cents, when it could have been bought of ignorant holders for 37 cents. But we are not with these carping critics. In the circumstances, as we now see them, the board necessarily had to act quickly and pick up the sole leather while the picking up was good. Have we not, anyhow, cleared \$230? But here a curbing care besets us. Is there not danger of peace? Had not the board better unload?

The President's Suffrage Plan

If the ladies of the National Suffrage Association are satisfied with President Wilson's declaration before them of his friendliness for national suffrage they are not hard to please. The president told them that he was in sympathy with their movement and that there should be no quarrel about the means of attaining its successful end. There should be no quarrel; there can be no quarrel among supporters of the movement, for there is but one way by which the end can be quickly attained, and that is by a constitutional amendment such as a democratic congress has rejected.

The president had previously told the suffragists that he did not favor that way; that national equal suffrage must come by the separate action of the states. There is no prospect that the southern states will give votes to women within a generation. There are northern states which will withhold the privilege of the ballot from women until they are forced to give it.

At the Atlantic City meeting the president left an inference that he had a mysterious plan by which women would be granted political rights equal with those enjoyed by men. The women would do well to inquire what that plan is. There is no one but the president who can tell them, for there is no other man and there is no woman wise enough to evolve a plan that does not involve an amendment of the constitution of the United States.

We have gleaned from remarks we have heard regarding Maricopa's share of the state school tax that it would be possible for us to have so many school children; or, that if we had enough school children, the education of them would be a source of revenue rather than an expense, as it now is; that if we had a sufficient preponderance of school children over all the other counties of the state we should recover from the school fund a sum in excess of all we pay for county and state taxes. We believe in the state school tax and have always favored it. We believe that the total expenditures for schools should be met by the state and not by the counties, but we deplore this foolish figuring for political purposes.

We trust our prohibition friends and all who favor prohibition have ascertained by this time how the candidates for legislative nominations feel on the subject of prohibition legislation, and will govern themselves accordingly next Tuesday. After that there should be another sifting of the candidates to the end that those who desire to stop bootlegging may know how to vote next November.

We suppose that when Mr. Bryan comes to Phoenix he will tell us that the democratic administration and party have executed all the pledges of the Baltimore platform constructed by him, with special reference to his favorite one-term plank.

The great rain we have had is only a part, but an important one, of the conspiracy to give the Salt River valley the most prosperous year we have ever had.

CITIZEN SOLDIERS
TAUGHT TO SHOOT

Capt. William G. Harrice.

The pioneer of the movement which has thrown open military rifle camps to civilians is Capt. William G. Harrice of the U. S. M. C. He established the marine corp camp of instruction at Sea Girt in 1909, and was captain of the marine corp rifle team in 1908 and 1910; he also prepared the small arms regulations of the navy, and is vice-president of the national rifle association.

GOV. HUNT IS
SERIOUSLY ILL

Gov. Geo. W. P. Hunt is very ill at his home on McDowell Road. The announcement that the governor had taken to his bed, and was under the care of his physician, caused grave apprehension among his friends last evening. Dr. Willard Smith, who is attending him, announced that the temperature of his patient had reached 102, and that his condition was serious.

The strain of the campaign has proved a heavy load for Gov. Hunt to carry. Speaking in poorly ventilated halls, and travelling in stuffy Pullmans, caused him to contract a cold. At the last place in which he spoke, he complained of not feeling well. Upon his arrival in Phoenix last night, he went immediately to bed and Dr. Smith was sent for. The doctor announced that a serious cold had set in, and that the governor would probably be laid up for a few days, unless complications set in. The sickness coming as it does, just at the height of his campaign, is a severe blow to the governor. He will probably be forced to forego his contemplated trip to Globe, for the purpose of casting his vote at the primaries.

WIFE JEALOUS OF
HER MOTHER-IN-LAW

How his wife's insane and unreasoning jealousy and hatred for her mother-in-law made it unsafe and improper for him to live with her, was the story told by R. H. Brumback, a local attorney in the divorce court yesterday.

In October 1915, Brumback divorced his first wife, Anna Brumback on the ground of desertion and the following June made Leonora Elizabeth Gordon his bride. Eight days after the marriage Mrs. Brumback began abusing her husband's family and according to his testimony "at all times and occasions of performance of filial obligation" on his part she became violently enraged. She used vile and obscene language he alleged.

Mr. Brumback stated that she threatened to kill him and that he had been informed and believed that she had been armed with a gun and had the means of executing her threat.

Mrs. Brumback did not appear in the court room nor did she contest the suit. Judge Stanford signed the decree.

EXPLANATION OF
EASTER PROPERTY

The following letter is from the pen of E. A. Edwards, an engineer sent to deliver the property of the Easter Oil, Gas and Mining company. There has been a great deal of discussion about the property and it is to shed more light on the subject that the latter has been given out for publication.

Phoenix, Sept. 7, 1916.

Easter Oil, Gas and Mining Co.

Gentlemen: In accordance with your request I have visited your prospective oil territory at Easter. In company with Mr. Y. L. Holmes, we drove over a very large part of the tract of over 2000 acres which has a gradual slope from the mountains towards the river. It is the property of the Easter Oil, Gas and Mining company. There has been a great deal of discussion about the property and it is to shed more light on the subject that the latter has been given out for publication. Phoenix, Sept. 7, 1916. Easter Oil, Gas and Mining Co.

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Phoenix Title & Trust Company
18 North First Ave.

LITTLE JAMES

(Where Party Loyalty Submerges Personal Animosity and Factional Hatred)

"The Loyalty of the Democrats of Arizona," says My Paw "is won of the most little things which I have ever seen. I been around to most of their Meetings an' I been struck by their Affection for wun another as Democrats while they was tryin' to Stab each Other in the Back as Feller Citizens. I heard wun Speaker say at them Fellers which is tryin' to Defect Governor Hunt an' Tell Jorge Only is There's an Lyres an' Tons of the Corrupt Intruders. They'd sell the Hole State out for a few Pounds of Copper. They'd rob their Grandmothers. If they had their Just Dues them of 'at wudden git Hunged be in the Penitentiary for life. But now the Speaker, they is School Expenditure of the Principal of Tempean Jefferson an' Andy Jaxon an' William J. O'Brien an' Woodrow Wilson, an' after the Party was all Got to Stand together with em an' assist 'em in Robbin' the State Blind." At another Meetin' a Speaker sez: "These Fellers what's tryin' to Defect the Property of the Taxpayers. They're again every Principal of Good Government. They had Rooned the State for Five Years an' has Drove the Capital an' Burdened the People with Taxes They've Run that Big Wild Car up an' down the State like a Juicer Nut, crushin' the Life out of Industry. If Arizona's goin' to be Saved we got to Lick 'em at the Primmy. But if we can't we Got to git Leint 'em an' Aid an' Abet 'em in their Roonin' Course." "For it don't make no Difference how Despicable an' Criminal they is, they is Still Democrats an' Democrats 's got to be Wiped out. Indivizible after the Primmy, however much it gits Split up the Back before. It don't make no Difference if a Feller's The'an a Lyre an' a Arson an' a Arnychest, let so's he's a Democrat when he goes to the Poles an' Votes her Straight. Arizona may be parized, Capital may be Skeeered away; our Taste may Arrow 'Plaint' to the Skize but the Democrat Party must Survive. We may kill each other off at the Primmy but it's the Party of wun another we got to Present a Solid Front to the Enemy in November."

LITTLE JAMES.

Where the People
May Have Hearing

To the Editor of the Republican:
There have recently been many inquiries addressed to me, asking how the Temperance Federation stands on political questions and candidates; and I take this opportunity to answer those who may wish to know.

The Temperance Federation as an organization is non-partisan; every party faction and faith is represented in it, and absolutely no pledge is required of its members; nor do its members lose their right to vote as they choose, or their right of political activity. However any such activity must be considered individual and in no way involving the Federation. We are united and agreed upon but one issue and that is Prohibition for Arizona. We believe it to be the vital issue of this election.

THOMAS K. MARSHALL
Pres. Temp. Federation of Arizona.
GRADY GAMMAGE
General Secretary.

OFFICIAL TESTIMONIAL

My attention has been directed to a published statement designed to question the truthfulness of announcements heretofore made by Mr. A. A. Betts, rate expert of the corporation commission and a candidate in the democratic primary for commissioner.

When the position of rate expert was tendered Mr. Betts he was located at Prescott in the employ of the Santa Fe traffic department. It was fully ten days after his appointment before he was relieved of his duties at Prescott and assumed the work of the commission at Phoenix.

F. A. JONES.

Sept. 9, 1916.

NEW DEPARTURE COASTER BRAKES

SAVE ACCIDENTS



Get the Boy or Girl a Bicycle for School

We have them from \$25 up. All bicycles sold by us are guaranteed.

Phoenix Cycle Co.
308 North Central Ave.

Vote for efficiency in the office of
State Superintendent of Public Instruction



C. Louise Boehringer

The voters of Arizona will have an opportunity next Tuesday to nominate for the office of State Superintendent of Public Instruction a woman who will bring to the position unusual training and experience. She is the only candidate for this office who holds a university degree and who has been recognized by a special diploma in supervision and administration.

Miss C. Louise Boehringer has won national recognition as an educator of the first rank. For fifteen years she has held supervisory and administrative positions of responsibility in the schools of Illinois, Missouri, Indiana and Arizona. For eight years she has been an active worker in the National Education Association and her address given at the Oakland meeting last year has been published in numbers of the leading educational journals of the country. This month it appears in the Journal of Education, published in Boston.

Miss Boehringer's work in Yuma county has won recognition from the department of education in Washington in slides and reports sent out by the department.

Our chief educational office is one that calls for a person of vision and one that will win high recognition for

Arizona in the constructive work done for the schools of the state. This new state is about to face a number of educational problems that have already come to the older states. Miss Boehringer's wide experience and special administrative studies fit her for grappling with these problems.

The state educational office is the only one being sought by the women of Arizona and the opportunity comes to the voters next Tuesday to elect a woman whose qualifications are away above par.

It is known to many that the trend of the west is in the direction of recognizing the womanhood of the enfranchised states by electing a qualified woman in the state educational office. Washington, Wyoming, Idaho and Colorado all have efficient women in this office. Wyoming and Colorado have elected women to this office for twenty years. Washington, with a woman in the state educational office, now holds first rank in the U. S. in public school efficiency. Voters of Arizona, let us seize this opportunity to nominate for State Superintendent of Schools the person whose preparation for this responsible office is of the highest and best.

Vote for C. Louise Boehringer for State Superintendent of Schools!

THE
VALLEY BANK
PHOENIX, ARIZONA

CAPITAL \$500,000.00

Figures That Are Interesting

Some people say that figures are very uninteresting reading—but when they are recorded in your bank book as showing money to your credit with us, they are most interesting and furnish the best incentive for adding more dollars to your credit. Your account is cordially invited.

4% Interest Paid on Savings Accounts.

FOR YOUR SAVINGS
4% AND SAFETY

J. J. HILL ON THRIFT

"Thrift is not a virtue of tomorrow, but of today. The young man who puts off until he is earning a larger income or has satisfied some present want, or for any other reason, the effort to spare and accumulate is pretty sure never to begin unless under the pressure of misfortune. And it is really true that only the beginning is difficult. The first fifty or one hundred dollars are slow to gather, and look unimportant even after they have been saved. But there is magic in the fact. The income from investment, however trifling, confers a sense of power and carries a promise that allures. More important than all, a habit of saving has begun to push a sprout through the crust of indifference and self-indulgence. Independence in character asserts itself. Purpose strengthens. Possibilities appear. Thrift is a rare discipline in self-control. Presently there is a new man and a new force in the world.

The Phoenix Savings Bank & Trust Co.

"Phoenix" Only Savings Bank
Owned and controlled by the PHOENIX NATIONAL BANK. Combined capital and profits, \$553,000; assets, \$4,500,000.